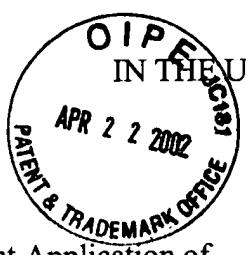


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Group Art Unit 1641

In re
Patent Application of
Thierry Gicquel, et al.
Serial No. 09/554,167
Filed: July 11, 2000

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I, P. Brandenburg, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date of my signature.

P. Brandenburg
Signature
April 15, 2002
Date of Signature

Examiner: K. Padmanabhan

“REACTION VESSELS, A SET OF SUCH
VESSELS, AND AN IMMUNOLOGICAL ASSAY
METHOD AND APPARATUS IMPLEMENTING
SUCH SETS OF VESSELS”

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 23, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1, 4, and 5.

2 e 6. ^{The apparatus} (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 11, including an opaque shoe for pressing in light-proof manner around the window of the vessel provided with a central opening for passing light between the vessel and photometric means.

D1 3 e 7. ^{The apparatus} (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 11, including a plate for receiving the washing means and the photometric means.